

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of amended claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Amended Claims:

Claims 1–6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A computer-implemented method comprising:

executing, by a computing device, an enterprise planning session in accordance with an enterprise planning model, wherein the enterprise planning model defines hierarchically arranged nodes associated with business logic software modules and enterprise contributors, wherein executing the enterprise planning session comprises:

receiving, by the computing device contribution data provided by the enterprise contributors, wherein the contribution data corresponds to one or more of the nodes of the enterprise planning model; and

automating, by the computing device, reconciliation of the contribution data across an enterprise that corresponds to the enterprise planning model by automatically aggregating the contribution data as the contribution data is received, wherein the enterprise planning model comprises a financial model;

checking-out, by the computing device, an individual one of the nodes of the model for editing during execution of the enterprise planning session in accordance with the enterprise planning model; and

modifying, by the computing device, the checked-out individual one of the nodes of the model without preventing execution of the enterprise planning session for the nodes of the enterprise planning model that are not checked-out, wherein at least one of the nodes of the enterprise planning model that is not checked out receives contribution data from the checked-out individual one of the nodes without taking the model offline.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 7, wherein modifying the checked-out individual one of the nodes comprises:

receiving updated model information for the checked-out individual one of the nodes; and
updating a respective slice of the enterprise planning model for only the checked-out individual one of the nodes based on the updated model information.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 8, wherein updating the enterprise planning model comprises modifying the business logic software module or the enterprise contributor associated with the checked-out individual one of the nodes in response to the updated model information.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 8:

wherein executing the enterprise planning session comprises receiving and processing the contribution data from the enterprise contributors associated with the nodes of the model during the execution of the enterprise planning session and prior to the check-out of the individual one of the nodes; and

wherein modifying the checked-out individual one of the nodes comprises updating data of the checked-out one of the nodes with the contribution data that was received prior to the check-out of the individual one of the nodes in accordance with the updated model information when the checked-out individual one of the nodes is subsequently checked-in during the execution of the enterprise planning session.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein automating reconciliation comprises defining reconciliation jobs for execution by an application server to prompt a reviewer to reconcile the previously received contribution data with the updated model information for the checked-in individual one of the nodes, wherein the application server is communicatively coupled to the computing device.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein automating reconciliation comprises defining reconciliation jobs for execution by remote computers of the enterprise contributors to prompt at least one of the enterprise contributors to reconcile the previously received contribution data with the updated model information for the checked-in individual one of the nodes.

Claims 14–21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 7, wherein automatically aggregating the contribution data as the contribution data is received comprises:

- receiving a portion of the contribution data;
- identifying higher levels of the hierarchically arranged nodes affected by the portion of the contribution data; and
- calculating new aggregate totals at each level of the hierarchically arranged nodes in real time according to the received portion.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 12, further comprising receiving an indication from the reviewer corresponding to the checked-in individual one of the nodes, wherein the indication indicates whether the reviewer accepted or rejected the contribution data for the checked-in individual one of the nodes.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

receiving, by a computing device, an enterprise planning model defining hierarchically arranged nodes associated with business logic software modules and enterprise contributors of an enterprise, wherein the hierarchically arranged nodes comprise a first node and a second node, and wherein the second node is hierarchically related to the first node;

associating, by the computing device, a first set of data with the first node and a second set of data with the second node in accordance with the enterprise planning model, such that the second set of data is hierarchically related to the first set of data;

receiving an update to the enterprise planning model, wherein the update identifies the first node;

checking-out, by the computing device, the first node after receiving the update to the enterprise planning model;

receiving, by the computing device, contribution data for the second node after checking-out the first node;

modifying, by the computing device, the second set of data with the received contribution data for the second node while the first node is checked-out; [[and]]

checking-in, by the computing device, a modified version of the first node after modifying the second set of data for the second node, wherein the modified version of the first node corresponds to the received update to the enterprise planning model; and

reconciling, by the computing device, the modified second set of data with the first set of data of the modified version of the first node after the modified version of the first node has been checked in.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the first node comprises a first child node, wherein the second node comprises a second child node, wherein the hierarchically arranged nodes further comprise a parent node, wherein the enterprise planning model defines the parent node as a parent to the first child node and the second child node, the method further comprising:

aggregating, after checking-in the modified version of the first child node, the first data set for the modified version of the first child node and the second data set comprising the received contribution data for the second child node to form a set of aggregate data; and
associating the set of aggregate data with the parent node.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24, further comprising:
receiving a second set of contribution data for the first node before checking-out the first node;

defining a reconciliation job for execution by an application server that is communicatively coupled to the computing device, wherein the reconciliation job is configured to cause the application server to prompt a reviewer to reconcile the second set of contribution data with the modified version of the first node; and

receiving, by the computing device, a response from the application server indicating whether the reviewer has accepted or rejected the second set of contribution data for the modified version of the first node.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24, further comprising updating a slice of the enterprise planning model corresponding to the first node to form the modified version of the first child node while the first child node is checked out.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable storage medium encoded with instructions for causing a programmable processor to:

receive an enterprise planning model defining hierarchically arranged nodes associated with business logic software modules and enterprise contributors of an enterprise, wherein the hierarchically arranged nodes comprise a first node and a second node, and wherein the second node is hierarchically related to the first node;

associate a first set of data with the first node and a second set of data with the second node in accordance with the enterprise planning model, such that the second set of data is hierarchically related to the first set of data;

receive an update to the enterprise planning model, wherein the update identifies the first node;

check-out the first node after receiving the update to the enterprise planning model;

receive contribution data for the second node after checking-out the first node;

modify the second set of data with the received contribution data for the second node while the first node is checked-out; [[and]]

check-in a modified version of the first node after modifying the second set of data for the second node, wherein the modified version of the first node corresponds to the received update to the enterprise planning model; and

reconcile the modified second set of data with the first set of data of the modified version of the first node after the modified version of the first node has been checked in.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable storage medium of claim 28, wherein the first node comprises a first child node, wherein the second node comprises a second child node, wherein the hierarchically arranged nodes further comprise a parent node, wherein the enterprise planning model defines the parent node as a parent to the first child node and the second child node, further comprising instructions to:

aggregate, after checking-in the modified version of the first child node, the first data set for the modified version of the first child node and the second data set comprising the received contribution data for the second child node to form a set of aggregate data; and

associate the set of aggregate data with the parent node.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable storage medium of claim 28, further comprising instructions to:

receive a second set of contribution data for the first node before checking-out the first node;

define a reconciliation job for execution by an application server that is communicatively coupled to the computing device, wherein the reconciliation job is configured to cause the application server to prompt a reviewer to reconcile the second set of contribution data with the modified version of the first node; and

receive, by the computing device, a response from the application server indicating whether the reviewer has accepted or rejected the second set of contribution data for the modified version of the first node.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable storage medium of claim 28, further comprising instructions to update a slice of the enterprise planning model corresponding to the first node to form the modified version of the first child node while the first child node is checked out.